



Hop, Sip and Slump Tour: craft beer, spirits and food tour of Budapest & Balkans



Uncover beer, spirits and wine in three capitals: Budapest, Zagreb & Ljubljana

Experience, taste and discover the wine and culinary traditions from Hungary to Croatia and onto Slovenia on this fabulously unique 11 day small group tour.

Along the way experience vibrant cities, taste dozens of different beers & wines and discover new food, flavors & cultures.

Meet with amazing brew masters, local winemakers, distillers and farmers while trying fabulous home-cooking, local products, craft beers, street food, wines and brandies.

Itinerary Overview

Days 1-4 Budapest, Hungary

Days 5 - 6 Zagreb, Croatia

Day 7 rural Slovenia

Days 8 - 10 Ljubljana, Slovenia

May 4th - 14th, 2018 / \$3,595



Day 1: Budapest, Hungary

Welcome to Budapest! Budapest is heaven for explorers and foodies alike – boasting a plethora of historical buildings, UNESCO sites, spas, bars, and amazing food. Late afternoon walking tour of Pest side of the city, welcome dinner at private bar with beer samplings of Hungarian craft beers.

Day 2: Budapest, Hungary

There is no better way to begin any exploration of Budapest than with its food and drinks. Budapest's food, wine, and cultural walking and tasting tour begins at The Central Market Hall—Budapest's cathedral of food—and continues through one of its most delicious and charming neighborhoods. Be sure to come with an appetite as you will need it on this tour! Leisure time to explore in the afternoon and evening.

Day 3: Budapest, Hungary

Today we head out for a full day visiting breweries, talking with beer makers and, of course, sampling beers. Budapest is undergoing a craft beer revolution; not just bars devoted to ales but microbreweries opening across the country and a young generation of “Gypsy brewers” conjuring up new recipes at home, renting brewery space and creating intriguing beers.

Day 4: Budapest, Hungary

Full day to explore Budapest at your leisure with some optional activities like evening wine river cruise or Jewish dinner (at local's home). Your tour leader can help you make the most of your time in Budapest.

Day 5: Zagreb, Croatia

Today we transfer to the vibrant capital city of Croatia, Zagreb. This city has culture, arts, music, architecture, gastronomy and all the other things that make a quality capital city – it's no surprise that the number of visitors has risen sharply in recent years. There are countless cultural things to do in Zagreb, and its compact size makes it easy for visitors to navigate. Attractions range from historic sights and fascinating galleries, complemented by destination restaurants, live music venues, clusters of busy bars, and breweries. En route to Zagreb we enjoy a delicious countryside stick-to-your-ribs lunch (probably goose or duck) at rustic farmhouse. From here we continue to Zagreb for a walking tour of the city's highlights.

Day 6: Zagreb, Croatia

Today we wander the charming streets of will explore craft breweries around Zagreb complete



with beer tastings. The craft-beer revolution is another thing that has given the city an additional creative twist, inducing a swerve away from lounge-bar aesthetics and a return to the idea of the bar as a place to drink, mingle, and soak up the good vibes.

Day 7: rural Slovenia

This morning we depart for Ptuj, the oldest recorded city in Slovenia. After visiting this historical town, we continue to a great gastropub run by Bevog (Slovenia's premier craft brewery). From here we then visit the Bevog brewery across the river in Austria. Later we'll meet with pumpkin seed oil producer. For dinner we dine on amazing eastern Slovenian dishes at local Gostilna for dinner.

Day 8: Ljubljana, Slovenia

Today we visit the unique beer fountain in Zalec, famous for hop growing. We tour the Hop Museum and learn the history of Slovenia's beer making culture. Upon arrival to Ljubljana, we enjoy a foodie walk focusing on Slovenian cuisine and craft beers. Later we pay a visit to Tektonik Brewery in Ljubljana. Slovenia's capital and largest city also is one of Europe's greenest and most liveable capitals. This small city oozes with charm and friendly Slovenes.

Day 9: Ljubljana, Slovenia

No visit to Slovenia is complete without a schnapps tasting at Slovenia's finest distiller served with delicious locally sourced products including venison for lunch. Later in the afternoon we visit with a bee keeper making honey liqueur at Lake Bled. Lake Bled is an emerald-green lake with a picture-postcard church on an islet, a medieval castle clinging to a rocky cliff and some of the highest peaks of the Julian Alps as backdrops. It is stunning.

Day 10: Ljubljana, Slovenia

We visit to the amazing underground world of Skocjan caves featuring the largest subterranean cavern in Europe. Then head to Slovenia's most picturesque wine region of Brda and enjoy samples of olive oils and cheese. The variety of culinary traditions (Slovene, Friulian, Habsburg) have intertwined on this strip of land, giving Brda cuisine its special touch. Our big farewell dinner will consist of 5-courses paired with amazing wines from the Brda region at Wine & Spirits Top 100 Wineries of the World.

Day 11: check-out and transfer to Ljubljana airport

\$3,595 includes 10 nights lodging, ground transport, tour leader, local guides, 4 dinners, 7 lunches and all tastings per program. Airfare to/from Europe not included.



